Focus on the Poor in Kenya’s FP/RH Strategy

Dan Wendo
Challenges

- High poverty level
- High infant and maternal mortality
- Inequalities in healthcare status and use

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Poorest</th>
<th>Wealthiest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fertility</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contraceptive Use</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Delivery</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>18%</td>
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Source: Kenya DHS 2009
Opportunities

- Government’s Vision 2030
  - Poverty reduction
  - Social equity in resource distribution in a decentralized system
- Increased commitment for FP/RH and equity
- National RH Policy 2008
Integrating Equity into Policies and Plans

Analysis

- Policy
- Barriers
- Market
- Financing
- Poverty

Advocacy and Dialogue

- Dialogue between the poor and service providers at the community level
- Dialogue between the poor and policymakers at regional levels
- Dialogue among policymakers at the national level

Action

Equity Goals in the National RH Strategy

- Increase equitable access to reproductive health services
  - Increase contraceptive prevalence among the poor by 20 percentage points by 2015 (up from 12% in 2003)
The new strategy calls for

- Design targeted interventions for
  - Hard-to-reach populations
  - Poverty pockets
  - Slums
  - Under-served regions

- Implement interventions for target groups

- Improve resource allocation
  - Resource mobilization
  - Shift resources from relatively well-served to extreme poverty areas (e.g., urban slums)
The new strategy also calls for

- Implement healthcare financing mechanisms
  - Inform scale-up of Output Based Approach (OBA) for FP under Vision 2030
  - Create National Social Health Insurance Fund
  - Strengthen implementation of fee exemption mechanisms

- Support community-based distribution to overcome social and geographic barriers
- Build PPPs to improve equity
- Monitor impact on the poor
Evidence-based, country-driven approach works!

Thank you!

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